

News Release

News Release 06-59 Date: July 17, 2006

Contact: Public Affairs

Phone: (509) 527-7020

Corps places temporary fire restrictions on Dworshak Reservoir recreation lands

OROFINO, Idaho – Recreationists planning to visit Dworshak Dam and Reservoir near Orofino, Idaho, should be aware of increased fire-risk conditions and new temporary fire restrictions.

Effective Friday, July 21, at the request of wildfire managers at the Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protection Agency, temporary fire restrictions will be put in place on all lands managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers around Dworshak Reservoir.

The fire restrictions include all developed camp grounds and mini-camps, said Deb Norton, park ranger for the Corps at Dworshak.

Forest fuels have reached very dry conditions, according to natural resources specialists at Dworshak. To reduce the risk of wildfires, campfires (using established fire rings only) must be completely extinguished between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. This limitation will be in effect until fuel conditions change. Camping is allowed only in designated sites.

"Visitors should take extra precautions not only with campfires, but also with other sources of ignition, such as cigarettes, vehicle exhaust systems and even charcoal briquettes," said Norton. "Visitors should keep on hand a shovel, bucket and fire extinguisher to quench their fires."

All recreationists are asked to contact the local law enforcement or Dworshak personnel if they see potential problems or issues with fire or suspicious smoke.

For more information about recreation opportunities or fire conditions at Dworshak, contact the ranger staff at (208) 476-1255. Recreation information is also available on the Corps' Walla Walla District Web site at www.nww.usace.army.mil.